SELECTING BREEDING SWINE.

The amateur or breeder of moderate experience is usually too much inclined to lean toward over-refinement, writes a correspondent of the Country Gentleman. This tendency comes from the fact that the tastes of beginners are far more likely to drift toward the attractive than toward the really useful features, forgetting, or at least appearing to forget, that swine are of little value unless able naturally to stand up under all the exposures and vicissitudes of every kind to which they are exposed. The professional breeder, as well as the amateur, may keep his pig stock in the most judicious manner, even tenderly; yet it should be borne in mind that while the animals used in the manner named as breeders will do very well under the extra care and conditions, still their progeny goes into the hands of men who have no idea that a hog, even though he is a refined one, needs anything better for quarters than a muddy yard and a rough shed largely open to the weather, in which the bedding, if any, is changed only at the annual

threshing time. It so happens that the hog, to be eminently a show animal, must present those peculiarities, and have that general outward contour, which most eminently fit him for yielding his owner a profit when fed up and consigned to the barrel or sold to the butcher. Yet he only is a wise breeder who mingles symmetry with robustness of constitution, breeding a good coat of hair as a covering for all; for there is no species of refinement that demands an uncovered hide to be carried by any farm beast. The master triples his clothing when winter comes, but the poor hog meets a temperature of 90 degrees above and 20 degrees below zero without being able materially to change his coat. This is an unnatural condition to be forced upon the hog, and if breeders would reason more correctly that what is lacking in hair must be made up in feed, and that it is cheaper to breed the hair on the back than to put the additional feed required into the belly.

Bone exquisitely refined may appear to bring out and magnify those general features of symmetry we are so fond of seeing. While this feature is well enough in the hog we keep merely to look at and exhibit to others, it answers a very poor purpose as a business movement to flood the feeding districts with a class of swine that get down on their haunches after traveling a mile to market, and may never stand erect after being jostled for a day in a hog car. However much we like to have our horses grow up in the highest style of symmetry known to the horse-breeder's art, any competent horseman knows that he has made a a mistake when a colt appears having a too refined leg and joint. He may look very genteel, and be very agile as n colt, but his period of usefulness omes in later, and the leg which is quite sufficient on the springy sod of the pasture lot may prove an utter failure when he is called upon to meet the rough and tumble of travel upon hard streets.

I am not unmindful of the fact that the refined hog has refined flesh and muscle, and for use upon the table of the breeder it will pay to breed a few very highly refined pigs; but for sale In the market the same considerations will naturally govern that govern the fruit man in growing fruits. While

grower is supposed to be-"or make"-he devotes his grounds mainly to such varieties as have size and beauty, and will hold up under the vicissitudes of shipment, and endure in diverse climates. So the seeker after a cross upon his swine stock has need to estimate carefully the peculiarities of the stock to be crossed upon ment to bear he will be at no loss to determine whether he needs a fairly fine, a medium, or a very robust, rapid grower, having an abundant coat of hair, as a cross.

Our pig stock, in the matter of improvement, affords advantages not available to the larger classes of stock, in that they go but a short time with young, and mature rapidly and early; hence we have no valid excuse for failing to build up in directions where building up is required, or for failing to trim off undesirable features, no matter what they may be. The hog is so pliable, and the possibilities are so great with him, that the breeder who is at all expert can remodel a herd quite thoroughly in two or three years' time. It has only been within the past few years that it has been possible to do this, but now the requisite material abounds upon every

WHAT INJURES GRAPEVINES.

writer in Vick's Magazine says: is evident that the wood and buds of grapevines suffer winter injury more from drying than from intensity of cold. For when we lay them flat upon the surface of the soil, weighed down so as to be close to it, the wood is exposed, in the absence of snow at least, to quite as extreme cold as if it were up on the trellis. Yet even in the bosom of mother earth, cold as it may be, suffices to save the wood and crop. An exposed vine, when injured, scarcely ever betrays may appered

"The first evidence of its appearing is the failure of the buds to open while unhurt vines have expanded their leaves and are making growth. But those tardy buds open, too, after many days, showing that the only difng of wood and

of the springtime, gradually expand and fills the broken cells. But this loss of time is fatal to the proper ripening times suffer from this winter drying and spring retardation, although gen

William Horne, a veterinarian who writes a good deal on such subjects, sava: "All persons of common who have studied physiology at all away the parent animal. The rule has long been known to the intelligent perso that early maturity is early the mother. The offspring int

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